



EIA Laboratory Approval 15201.1
Outreach to the Practitioner/Accredited Veterinarian
3FEB2020

Attention Equine and Mixed practitioners, and anyone who conducts EIA “Coggins” testing: USDA Veterinary Services’ new guidance “Approval of Laboratories to Conduct EIA Testing 15201.1” is effective immediately and affects you.

Approved EIA laboratories are required to accept samples only from Category II veterinarians, authorized to perform accredited duties in the state in which samples were obtained. The National Accreditation Number (NAN) must be on every form; if you are using an older form, just insert the NAN next to your signature.

To check your accreditation status:

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/ct_areavet & click the Check My Accreditation Status button – it will indicate your: Category, Renewal Date and all the State(s) where you are Authorized.

There is a new requirement to accept submissions only on USDA approved forms. The VS 10-11 is the official form and the standard for approval of other forms. States or commercial services may submit forms to VS (that have identical information and data fields as the VS 10-11) and they will be considered for approval. We are working with a number of entities and expect no delays in the availability of forms, whether electronic or paper.

Older forms will be accepted until April 15, 2020, but we recommend you begin using the approved VS 10-11 now. Only the most current version is approved; it will have FEB 2018 printed on the lower left hand corner.

Please contact your APHIS-VS District office

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/contacts/field-operations-districts.pdf for supplies of paper VS 10-11s or questions.

The Veterinary Services Process Streamlining (VSPS) service and the electronic VS 10-11 are free to use; please go to <https://vsapps.aphis.usda.gov/vsps/>.

Properly complete the form and leave no fields blank – instead use “NONE”. You must uniquely identify the animal you are testing; the more non-descript the animal the more detail you must include. The complete narrative written description of the animal is required. If present, all white marks, tattoos, brands, microchips, whorls and scars must be recorded. Line drawings or good quality, well-lit and well-focused photographs are encouraged. The use of standardized nomenclature will facilitate clear communication; i.e. Age: XX months or XX years, or Date of Birth: MM/DD/YYYY, M = male intact, F = female intact, G = gelding, FS = female spayed.

NOTE:

- *Field #5 on the VS 10-11, (location of animal) should reflect the current home premises of equine: ranch/farm/stable/market” and*
- *Field #6 should reflect the county of home premises of equine*

Instructions and nomenclature are printed on the back of the forms, and available on our EIA webpage <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth-eia>, under “Information for the Veterinarian”.

Labs must refer all non-negative test samples to NVSL. The ELISA test is deliberately sensitive and some false positive results are expected. This may delay results for up to 5 days; please modify your client’s expectations and plan accordingly.

Sample submissions may come only from animals located in the U.S.A. (select labs have permission to accept imported samples).





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For more information visit APHIS's EIA webpage
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth-eia>, in the dropdown choose: EIA Documents and References.

The Equine Disease Communication Center: <http://www.equinediseasecc.org> also has EIA information.

The USDA's Veterinary Service depends on you, the accredited veterinarian, to help monitor and control disease in our domestic equine herd. We cannot accomplish our mission without your help and cooperation.

Questions are best addressed by your local APHIS-VS District office who can be found here:
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/contacts/field-operations-districts.pdf

